

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. [CANCELLED]
2. [CANCELLED]
3. [CANCELLED]
4. [CANCELLED]
5. [CANCELLED]
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The connecting aperture device and method, of claim 1~~ device of claim 12, wherein ~~the truss device is~~ trusses are fabricated with a multiplicity of apertures along the horizontal length, ~~alternating from side to side thus providing means for the allowance, communication and flow through of said apertures by cross member reinforcement.~~
7. [CANCELLED]
8. (Currently Amended) ~~The connecting aperture device and method of claim 1, wherein the device is~~ truss device of claim 12, wherein apertures are disposed in a plurality along transverse faces of ~~the truss~~ a truss ~~providing a means where the reinforcement transfers forces through the reinforcement matrix in both tension and compression.~~
9. [CANCELLED]

10. [CANCELLED]

11. [CANCELLED]

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The connecting aperture device and method of claim 1, wherein truss elements~~ A truss device comprising at least one chord and at least one web, wherein the web comprises a central portion defining and lying within a web plane, and the web further comprises a series of web vertices, and wherein at least one of the web vertices is [[are]] formed or bent out of the web plane, and wherein the at least one chord is positioned adjacent the web at the web vertice that is formed or bent out of the web plane of said web elements so that apertures are created at the web vertices without an affixed chord in simple, and or compound angles to said lattice in a manner to allow the insertion, and passage through, and cincture of longitudinal reinforcement or lateral field chords to any other chord or reinforcing element for use as a chord in apposition, which provides means to utilize said lattice for adding shear at panel ends, and around openings in panels, and at intersections of structures, and for construction of box beams, and three dimensional panel systems, and to allow diverse structures to be placed together and rigidly affixed to one another juxtaposed so that there is a sharing of chords in apposition providing a means for design flexibility.

13. [CANCELLED]

14. [CANCELLED]

15. [CANCELLED]

16. [CANCELLED]

17. [CANCELLED]

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The connecting aperture device and method of claim 1, wherein a freely locatable~~ A truss element, comprising a first reinforcement element and an aperture cincture element, wherein the aperture cincture element is comprised of bent, woven, or folded continuous loop reinforcement, wherein the first

reinforcement element is positioned within the aperture cincture element provides a means for attachment of structural elements into a composite network of reinforcement or to adjacent structural elements of an assembled framework and for connectivity to prior art components preventing relative movement of said attached elements or components to achieve higher ductility and composite unification in tension as well as compression.

19. [CANCELLED]

20. (New) The truss device of claim 12, wherein the web vertice that is formed or bent out of the web plane forms a loop.

21. (New) The truss device of claim 20, wherein the loop defines an aperture configured to receive a reinforcement element passing longitudinally along the truss.

22. (New) The truss device of claim 20, wherein the loop defines an aperture configured to receive a lateral reinforcement element passing perpendicular to the web plane.

23. (New) The truss device of claim 20, wherein the loop defines a first aperture configured to receive a lateral reinforcement element passing perpendicular to the web plane, and wherein the loop defines a second aperture configured to receive a reinforcement element passing longitudinally along the truss.

24. (New) The truss device of claim 18, wherein the aperture cincture element comprises a first vertex and a second vertex, wherein the first vertex is opposite to the second vertex, and wherein the first reinforcement element is saddled within the aperture cincture element at a position adjacent the first vertex

25. (New) The truss device of claim 24, wherein the truss device further comprises a first web element, wherein the first web element is positioned within the aperture cincture element at a position adjacent the second vertex.

26. (New) The truss device of claim 24, wherein the truss device further comprises a second reinforcement element, wherein the second reinforcement element is

positioned within the aperture cincture element at a position adjacent the second vertex, and the second reinforcement element passes in a direction generally perpendicular to the first reinforcement element.

27. (New) The truss device of claim 26, wherein the truss device further comprises a first web element, wherein the first web element passes through the aperture cincture element between the first reinforcement element and the second reinforcement element.

28. (New) The truss device of claim 27, wherein the first web element is held within the aperture cincture element by the first reinforcement element, and the second reinforcement element passes in a direction generally perpendicular to the first reinforcement element.

29. (New) The truss device of claim 26, wherein the truss device further comprises a third reinforcement element, wherein the third reinforcement element passes through the aperture cincture element between the first reinforcement element and the second reinforcement element.

30. (New) The truss device of claim 29, wherein the truss device further comprises a second web element, wherein the second web element passes through the aperture cincture element between the first reinforcement element and the third reinforcement element.

31. (New) The truss device of claim 18, further comprising a second reinforcement element, wherein the second reinforcement element passes within the freely locatable aperture cincture element in a direction generally perpendicular to the first reinforcement element.

32. (New) The truss device of claim 18, wherein the freely locatable aperture cincture element comprises a continuous loop formed into the general shape of a “figure 8.”

33. (New) The truss device of claim 32, wherein the “figure 8” defines two apertures, and the first reinforcement element passes within both of the two apertures.

34. (New) The truss device of claim 33, further comprising a second reinforcement element, wherein the second reinforcement element passes between the first reinforcement element and a portion of the aperture cincture element.

35. (New) The truss device of claim 33, further comprising a third reinforcement element, wherein the third reinforcement element passes between the first reinforcement element and a portion of the aperture cincture element, and wherein the second and third reinforcement elements pass in a direction generally perpendicular to the first reinforcement element.